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C525 0152

TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE: 28 August 2003

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C.  
20231

Re: Applicant's Summary of Substance of Interview

Title: METHOD FOR CROSS-CONNECTING OPTICAL SIGNALS AT HIGH SPEED

Serial No.: 09/835,543

Filed: 17 April 2001

Examiner: KIM, Richard H. Art Unit: 2871

Fax: (703) 872-9318

From: Gavin N. Manning

NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS TRANSMITTAL SHEET: 7

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ENCLOSURES: TRANSMITTAL SHEET - 1 PAGE  
APPLICANT'S SUMMARY OF  
SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW - 6 PAGES

2003

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*[Signature]* Christine Crawford - Assistant to Gavin N. Manning

File No.: C525 0152  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s): RICHARDSON, Douglas  
Title: METHOD FOR CROSS-CONNECTING OPTICAL SIGNALS AT HIGH SPEED  
Serial No.: 09/835,543  
Filed: 17 April 2001  
Examiner: KIM, Richard H. Art Unit: 2871  
Date: 28 August 2003

**APPLICANT'S SUMMARY OF SUBSTANCE  
OF INTERVIEW TRANSMITTAL**

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C.  
20231

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a response to the Office communication dated 28 July 2003. It is believed that no fees are payable in relation to this communication.

Please charge any fees in connection with this communication, including any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-1037.

Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1037.

Respectfully submitted,  
OYEN WIGGS GREEN & MUTALA

By:

*[Signature]*  
Gavin N. Manning  
Registration No. 36,412  
Tel. No.: (604) 669-3432  
Fax No.: (604) 681-4081

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Christine Crawford - Assistant to Gavin N. Manning

C525 0152  
GNM/TAR/at

Paper No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Examining Operations  
Patent Application

Inventor(s): RICHARDSON, Douglas  
Title: METHOD FOR CROSS-CONNECTING OPTICAL SIGNALS AT HIGH SPEED  
Serial No.: 09/835543  
Filed: 17 April 2001  
Examiner: KIM, Richard H. Art Unit: 2871  
Date: 28 August 2003

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C.  
20231

Dear Sir:

**APPLICANT'S SUMMARY OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW**

This is in response to the Office communication mailed 28 July 2003 which requests that the Applicant file a statement of the substance of an interview relating to the claims of this application. The Applicant's statement follows.

Particulars of Interview:

(i) **Parties:** Examiner Richard H. Kim and Gavin N. Manning (agent for the Applicant);

(ii) **Date:** 17 July 2003 and 21 July 2003;

(iii) **Method of interview:** telephonic;

(iv) **Claims discussed:** 1, 17-19, 21, 25, 38, 39, 46 and 49;

(v) **Prior art discussed:** Welch et al. (US 5,255,332) and Winarski et al. (US 6,317,190);

(vi) **Exhibits discussed:** see the attached drawings, entitled:  
(a) PRIOR ART (WELCH ET AL.);  
(b) THIS INVENTION (#1); and  
(c) THIS INVENTION (#2);

(vii) **Amendments discussed:** amendment of claim 20 to depend only from claim 4; cancellation of claims 17-19;

(viii) **Arguments of Examiner and Applicant:** see discussion in Substance of Interview below;

(ix) **Other pertinent matters discussed:**

(x) **Results of interview:** see discussion in Substance of Interview below.

Substance of Interview:

The Applicant advanced the argument that Welch et al. (US 5,255,332) and Winarski et al. (US 6,317,190) fail to teach or disclose focusing a selected input light beam onto a reflective optical switching element and/or an optical element configured to focus an optical signal onto a reflective optical switching element as claimed. (i) Welch et al. fails to disclose focusing an input beam on gratings (17); (ii) Welch et al. mentions "focusing" (at col. 3, ln. 5), but this relates to focusing the deflected light into the output optical fiber; and (iii) Welch et al. teaches that the optical beam is collimated when it impinges on gratings (17).

The Applicant agreed to cancel claims 17-19 and to amend claim 20 to depend only from claim 4. The Examiner and the Applicant agreed that Welch et al. and Winarski et al. fail to disclose or suggest focussing an optical signal onto a reflective optical switching element.

The Applicant filed an Amendment dated 9 August 2003 which is responsive to the Office communication dated 9 April 2003 and which incorporates the arguments raised and the agreements reached in this interview.

Respectfully submitted,

**OYEN WIGGS GREEN & MUTALA**

By:

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Vancouver, B.C.  
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